

REMARKS

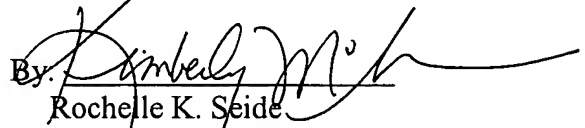
This paper is a preliminary amendment in the above-titled application, filed herewith as a divisional of pending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/860,075, filed May 17, 2001, which claims the benefit of French Application No. 00/06488, filed May 19, 2000.

By this amendment, and prior to the calculation of fees, claims 1-6, 8-9 have been canceled. Claims 10-25 correspond to the non-elected claims of Group II (claims 10-13) and Group III (claims 14-25) that were subject to a restriction requirement in the parent application.

The specification has been amended to insert the claim for priority to U.S. Patent Application No. 09/860,075. The specification has been further amended to conform to the amendments that were made in U.S. Patent Application No. 09/860,075 in the amendment mailed August 14, 2003. No new matter has been added as a result of any of the amendments.

A check in payment of the filing fee is enclosed herewith. Applicant does not believe that any additional fee is due in connection with this paper. If any additional fee is due, or if any overpayment has been made, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account 02-4377.

Respectfully submitted,
BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.

By: 
Rochelle K. Seide
Patent Office Reg. No. 32,300

Kimberly J. McGraw
Patent Office Reg. No. 50,994

30 Rockefeller Plaza
44th Floor
New York, NY 10012-4498
212-408-2500
Attorneys for Applicants